

Deal 3.

South dealer  
East-West vulnerable

|                                                           |                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEST</b><br>♠ A K Q J<br>♥ 8 6 4<br>♦ A 8 3<br>♣ 9 4 2 | <b>EAST</b><br>♠ —<br>♥ Q 10 9 3<br>♦ K Q 10 7 6<br>♣ A K Q J |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|

*Nagy*  
 1 ♠  
 2 ♠  
 3 ♦  
 Pass

*Kokish*  
 2 ♦  
 3 ♣  
 3 NT

*Hausler*  
 1 NT  
 2 ♠  
 3 ♠  
 Pass

*Splettstosser*  
 2 ♦  
 2 NT  
 3 NT

**Nagy, West for the Champs, quite sensibly treated his spades as a five-card suit. (Interestingly, 4-3-3-3 distribution with a very powerful four-card suit is often favorable for a 4-3 trump contract.)** Kokish investigated diamonds and clubs. Then, getting no encouragement from partner, he settled in game.

Hausler, West for the Challengers, quite sensibly treated his hand as a weak notrump. (One spade would be even more attractive as an opening bid if the alternative were one club.) The Challengers then had an excellent auction. Two diamonds was forcing Stayman, and West showed his spades. Two notrump asked for further clarification, and three spades showed 4-3-3-3 with good spades. East had now discovered exactly what he needed to know.

Awards

|          |    |
|----------|----|
| 4 NT     | 10 |
| 5 NT     | 8  |
| 4 ♥      | 4  |
| Partials | 3  |
| 5 ♣      | 3  |
| 5 ♦      | 3  |
| Slams    | 2  |

Running score: Kokish-Nagy 30,  
Hausler-Splettstosser 19.

Deal 4.

West deals; North bids hearts  
Both sides vulnerable

|                                                            |                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEST</b><br>♠ A 5<br>♥ Q J<br>♦ A K 10 7 6<br>♣ 8 7 5 3 | <b>EAST</b><br>♠ K J 10 6<br>♥ K 7 2<br>♦ Q 8 5 4 2<br>♣ 4 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|

*South*  
 —  
 1 ♦  
 2 ♣  
 Pass

*Nagy*  
 1 ♥  
 3 ♦

*South*  
 —

*Hausler*  
 1 ♦  
 2 ♣  
 Pass

*North*  
 1 ♥  
 D'ble  
 2 ♦

Game is just about certain, and would be an excellent contract even if the spade jack-ten, heart queen-jack, and diamond queen had been small cards in the same suits. Nonetheless, it is hard to reach; East-West lack the room to discover the combined power of the singleton club and trump fit.

Each East started by showing spades, but the distributional implications were different. Kokish's one-spade response could have been only four spades even though the Champs use negative doubles (a double would deny as many as four spades—a "Walsh" treatment). Splettstosser's negative double suggested a four-card spade holding. On the next round, Kokish's invitational jump to three diamonds seems more accurate than Splettstosser's minimum rebid, but even so the Champs could not move towards game. Could East reasonably bid more than he did, even considering the promoted heart king?

Awards

|      |    |
|------|----|
| 5 ♦  | 10 |
| 4 ♦  | 6  |
| 1 NT | 3  |
| 2 NT | 2  |
| 2 ♠  | 2  |
| 3 NT | 1  |

Running score: Kokish-Nagy 36,  
Hausler-Splettstosser 25.